

## Turkey 'rebuffed' U.S. request

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Turkish government, despite its ties to the West as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) alliance, rejected a direct American request to inspect an advanced MiG-29 jet fighter flown to Turkey a week ago by a defector, U.S. officials say. The rebuff "caused a lot of resentment" among officials at the Defence Department and the State Department because the fighter was returned to the Soviets without the type of comprehensive inspection that would shed light on their capabilities, said the officials. "This was a Russian front-line MiG-29, not the export version of the plane," explained one administration source. "We've examined export versions, but the Soviets don't share their top technology on the stuff they export. This was a chance to really get a look at the engines, 'look-down' radar and other systems that are loaded only on the Soviet air force planes." The sources said Turkey never offered an adequate explanation for its refusal to allow American experts to study the plane, but U.S. officials assume the Turks were trying to avoid antagonising the neighbouring Soviets even though Turkey is a NATO member.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION

Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibu Shaker Sunday hosted a reception at the Prime Ministry to mark Independence Day. The reception was attended by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, Cabinet members, former prime

ministers, senior Royal Court officials, the King's political and special advisers, members of the diplomatic community, and senior civilian and military officials. The King also received cables of congratulations from several world leaders on the occasion of Independence Day.

## Chinese students revitalise revolt

PEKING (Agencies) — About 80,000 students marched in Peking Sunday to recharge a democracy movement endangered by a conservative crackdown, and many vowed to keep alive their rag-tag occupation of Tiananmen Square.

Students from most parts of China paraded through the narrow streets of the capital's old quarters, shouting slogans demanding the fall of conservative Premier Li Peng, who declared martial law in Peking on May 20 to suppress the movement. "We'll keep coming until Li Peng steps down," the marchers chanted.

"Li Peng is a big political thug," said a student from coastal Shandong province.

Student leaders had earlier recommended that around 10,000 students encamped in the heart of Peking leave Tuesday, but a joint council of students and workers announced Sunday night that the sit-in would continue until at least June 20.

The National People's Congress — China's equivalent of a parliament — is expected to hold a meeting of its standing committee on that date.

Students demanded in a statement broadcast over the square that the congress revoke martial law declared by Li after mass anti-government protests rocked China.

"We want a dialogue. We know that the government wants our movement to die a natural death. We won't leave here without concrete results," said Hong Jianguo from Changchun.

NATO summit opens today amid simmering SNF feud

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) leaders gathered Sunday for a 40th birthday summit, but an unresolved row over nuclear policy threatened their hopes of wresting back the arms control initiative from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Keen to challenge Gorbachev for the mantle of peacemaker on his first trip to Western Europe as U.S. president, George Bush planned to unveil in his 15 allies a package of proposals to improve the East-West climate still further.

But officials said there was no chance of healing a split over the fate of NATO's short-range nuclear weapons (SNF) in Europe until the two-day meeting began at alliance headquarters Monday.

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner, interviewed on U.S. television, sought to play down the importance of the nuclear rift and bailed current political changes in Eastern Europe as a victory for the Western values.

"We have this one point of disagreement, but look, this is just one weapons system in a range of a lot of weapons systems," he told Cable News Network.

"All circumstances, historic circumstances, at the moment are

teachers college in northern China.

Tiananmen Square has been turned into what resembles a refugee camp with makeshift tents and shelters since thousands of students moved in May 13.

Their numbers have dwindled but students from outside Peking have arrived and are determined to keep the protest movement going.

State television in its late night news reminded them of the dangers they faced.

About 100,000 students, workers and supporters jammed People's Square in the heart of Shanghai, where posters lampooned Li as a crab scuttling sideways rather than moving forward.

Witnesses said between 20,000 and 30,000 people marched in the central city of Wuhan.

And 500,000 residents in Hengyang crowned a week of unprecedented popular rallies with a march by half a million people that stretched eight kilometres through the streets of the British colony.

In Peking, police stayed out of sight and the tens of thousands of troops ringing the capital with armour over the last week apparently made no moves to enter the city.

"We must think of something new to get the workers to come out again," said a despondent student from Qinghua University.

But workers said they now did not dare to show open support for the students after an apparent triumph by China's senior leader Deng Xiaoping and Li over refor-

med Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang.

Official media continued to report support for the martial law decree, with nationwide television saying the country's largest union was behind the move, even though many of its members marched with the students.

In another step to end the protest, the party central committee and the state council fully affirmed (the students') patriotic enthusiasm and will not investigate and punish those students who have voiced and committed extremist words and acts," the state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

A party central committee meeting is expected to be convened soon to approve the reported purge of Zhao.

Sources said the conservatives may still be determining what accusations to make publicly against the fallen party leader.

A document circulated among high-level party members accuses Zhao of forming an anti-party coalition and using the student movement to seize power, one diplomatic source said.

But another document distributed to lower-level officials is less harshly worded, saying that Zhao betrayed the party and revolution, helped incite the demonstrations and tried to split the army, the source said.

The scope of an expected purge remained unclear. Defence Minister Qin Jiwei, party propaganda chief Hu Qili and Vice Premier Tian Jiyun are also believed to be in trouble.

"We want a dialogue. We know that the government wants our movement to die a natural death. We won't leave here without concrete results," said Hong Jianguo from Changchun.

French President Francois Mitterrand and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl were due just before Monday's start of the summit at NATO headquarters.

As the leaders gathered in Brussels, their representatives persisted in trying to resolve a stubborn argument between the United States and Germany over the future role of nuclear weapons in Europe.

"There's intense diplomatic activity," said a NATO official, who demanded anonymity.

At issue is a German demand for the alliance to enter into early SNF negotiations with the Soviet Warsaw Pact.

The United States and Britain argue the allies should focus their attention on cutting the East's superiority in conventional or non-nuclear weapons. NATO contends it must maintain a nuclear arsenal as a deterrent to balance the East bloc's enormous stockpile of conventional weapons.

Prime ministers Margaret

Thatcher of Britain, Turgut Ozal of Turkey and Felipe Gonzalez of Spain also were flying to Brussels for the two-day summit.

Other arrivals were: Portugal's Anibal Cavaco Silva, Italy's Ciriaco de Mita, Iceland's Steinir Hermannsson and Denmark's Poul Schluter.

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No weapons category may be exempted from disarmament talks," said Genscher, who is riding a wave of public opposition to nuclear weapons.

The Israeli cabinet was expected to discuss the latest developments in Lebanon.

## King voices deep confidence in new CBJ governor

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a message to the newly-appointed governor of the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), Dr. Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi, congratulating him on his appointment and wishing him success in his endeavours to serve the country.

The King paid tribute to Nabulsi and said he was confident of the new CBJ governor's devotion, dedication, skills, experience and far-sightedness. "In every post you have served you proved to be a model of dedication, and an honest and diligent worker bent on serving Jordan and the

Jordanian people," the King said. He added that the CBJ was the most important and vital organisation in the country entrusted with managing the fundamental structure of the national economy. "I am confident that you will succeed in this task in view of your extensive experience and

will employ your skills to help the country regain its monetary stability," the King said.

The King said he was also confident that under Nabulsi, the CBJ would resume its active consultative role and contribute most favourably to the comprehensive economic adaptation programme as

needed in light of the financial, monetary and economic situation in the country.

"I am confident that you will always be as I have known you — a good administrator, a brilliant economist, a financial expert and a faithful and responsible official," the King said.

## Settlers escalate violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Tension rose in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip over the weekend after Jewish settlers stepped up attacks on Palestinians in the occupied territories in what many Palestinians saw as a coordinated move with Israeli soldiers trying to put down the 17-month-old Palestinian uprising.

In the latest incident, five Palestinians were beaten up Sunday after an Israeli settler was injured when a booby-trapped Israeli flag blew up when it was picked it up, according to reports.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, soldiers shot and wounded 12 Palestinians in clashes with stone-throwing protesters in four refugee camps and Gaza City, reports said.

As settlers stepped up vigilante attacks, members of the Israeli parliament's foreign affairs and security committee engaged in shouting matches with settlers who accused the army of not protecting Israelis in the occupied West Bank.

Benny Begin, a leading member of the right-wing Likud bloc and son of former prime minister Menachem Begin, told the settlers, "Don't come to us... blaming the army command and officers are things that can bring us down."

The meeting was called off as tempers rose.

In Hebron, Labour Party par-

Rockets hit Israeli settlement; clash reported

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Several Katyusha rockets fired from South Lebanon hit this northern Israeli settlement Sunday, slightly injuring a child, the Israeli army said.

Two Palestinian groups said they fired the rockets and said four of their men were killed in a clash with Israeli troops.

The two groups issued a joint statement in Beirut saying their fighters had carried out the rocket attack and had also clashed with Israeli troops in Metullah.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) said two guerrillas from each group had crossed the border into Israel.

Sources described the dawn bombardment of coastal areas north of Beirut as the heaviest since May 11, when an Arab League-brokered ceasefire ended 60 days of artillery duels which killed 360 people and wounded 1,200.

U.S. Roman Catholic Cardinal John O'Connor, who arrived in Beirut Saturday asking to meet nine American hostages, (see

page 2) postponed plans to visit west Beirut for talks after his hosts advised him it could be unsafe.

The militias increased the intensity of their shelling to stop small ships ferrying fuel and ammunition to the Aoun enclave.

Voice of Lebanon radio said 100 shells hit the area. There were no casualty reports from the bombardment or from sporadic clashes between Anoun loyalists and the Syrian-backed militiamen east of Beirut.

A nine-week-old land and sea blockade of the Aoun enclave has led to severe fuel shortages and forced most factories to shut down.

An Arab League summit, which ended in Casablanca Friday, called for an end to fighting and asked a heads-of-state committee to work for constitutional

changes and presidential elections in Lebanon. Earlier, Arab leaders abandoned efforts to persuade Syria to withdraw some of its troops from Lebanon.

Aoun gave a lukewarm welcome to the compromise formula. "It (the plan) contains everything and we have to wait and see if there is some time to help the willingness and force to implement it," he said.

He added that he was still waiting for action to be taken on a previous set of Arab League proposals.

Asked if he could hope to win his war with only 15,000 troops, Aoun said he would have to change his strategy and was asking for foreign help, especially from the United States.

Patriarch Boutros Nasrallah Steir, spiritual leader of Lebanon's Christian Maronites, criticized the Arab summit for not inviting a Lebanese representative and for failing to take note of the suffering caused by the blockade.

"In spite of all this we hope the... tripartite committee will lead to positive results," he said in a sermon.

Syrian view

Syria said Sunday the Casablanca summit had been a victory for its policies, in particular its role in Lebanon.

The Syria Times described resolutions adopted at the summit as "a new pan-Arab victory" for Syria.

"The victory has proven the worthiness of Syria's role in pan-Arab affairs in general and has given comprehensive Arab credibility for her stances vis-a-vis Lebanon," it said.

United States and Pakistan should cease military support for the rebels.

Najibullah told the Italian newspaper La Repubblica in an interview that he expected both countries to change their policies when Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto visits Washington next month.

Guerrilla leaders earlier predicted that the Kabul government, which seized power in a bloody 1978 military coup, would fall within weeks or months of the Soviet troop withdrawal, which was completed Feb. 15.

However, Afghan President Najibullah has said the defence of Jalalabad proves that the Mujahideen cannot win a military victory in Afghanistan.

Neither report could be independently verified.

Rebel sources, who were not identified, reported their own losses at approximately 10 dead in an offensive launched Saturday on all four sides of Jalalabad.

Radio Kabul said 55 "enemy elements" were killed and 46 wounded.

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Najibullah repeats call

Najibullah, repeating his argument that weapons could not resolve the Afghan conflict, was quoted Sunday as saying that the

party simply asks for representation in proportion to the role it plays in Afghan society. That would depend on the credit it has among the people... we are absolutely certain and convinced that the Afghan people would give it full support in such elections," he said.

Joe D. in LA

## Mahdi expects truce to last

**KHARTOUM (R)** — Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi has predicted that a lull in southern Sudan's civil war will continue until a truce is reached between his government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

A de facto truce appears to have been in effect this month in much of the south.

Mahdi's forecast was reported by Khartoum newspapers Sunday, three days before the end of a unilateral month-long ceasefire announced by the SPLA May 1.

The SPLA agreed last week to receive a government delegation June 10 in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa to discuss ways to implement a peace plan it drafted last November with Mahdi's coalition partners, the Democra-

tic Unionist Party (DUP).

Khartoum newspapers quoted Mahdi as saying his government would strongly object to any kind of foreign recognition of the SPLA which has been fighting Khartoum since 1983.

He was commenting on reports that SPLA leader John Garang was planning to visit the United States, Britain and Egypt next month.

Mahdi's coalition, formed last March under pressure from army generals who want an end to the



Sadeq Al Mahdi

war, is meanwhile facing differences among its partners over a

draft law to form a popular paramilitary force to fight the SPLA.

The idea to set up the force arose from SPLA attacks in the provinces of south Kordofan and Blue Nile. It was expected to be made up of tribal militias hostile to the SPLA.

DUP officials say they are opposed on the grounds that the force would rival the armed forces. The communists, the Sudan National Party and southern political parties reject the idea altogether.

The independent Khartoum daily Al Aymah said Sunday that Mahdi and DUP leader Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani would meet later this week in a bid to iron out differences over paramilitary force.

## O'Connor in Lebanon, appeals for peace

**BKIRKI, Lebanon (R)** — U.S. Roman Catholic Cardinal John O'Connor, visiting Lebanon despite concern for his safety, has asked to meet kidnapped Americans and appealed for peace in this war-torn country.

The cardinal arrived Saturday evening at the Christian Maronite Patriarchate at Bkirk, north of the Lebanese capital Beirut, aboard a Lebanese army helicopter from Cyprus after talks at the Vatican in Rome with Pope John Paul.

"I am extremely happy, I am here to show my support for all the Lebanese peoples," said O'Connor, wearing white robes and flanked by Lebanese army bodyguards carrying rifles.

He said he hoped and prayed for freedom and justice for all the peoples of Lebanon.



John O'Connor

The U.S. State Department has expressed concern over the

cardinal's visit to Lebanon which comes amid some of its worst political and military turmoil since independence in 1945.

An Arab League ceasefire May 11 ended 60 days of bombardments pitting mostly troops led by army commander Major-General Michel Aoun against Syrian forces and their Lebanese allies.

Some 360 people were killed and 1,200 wounded in the bombardments.

Sleir told O'Connor that Lebanon could never find peace without regional and international help.

"The least one could expect of such assistance would be... the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese military forces from our sovereign territory. Your country has a major role to play in the matter," Sleir told his visitor.

## Bulgaria to help Iran dredge Shatt

**NICOSIA (Agencies)** — Bulgaria is to help Iran dredge the Shatt Al Arab waterway which flows between Iran and Iraq at the head of the Gulf.

The Iranian news agency IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said Saturday night that an agreement to cooperate in dredging the waterway was concluded in Tehran with a Bulgarian delegation led by Foreign Trade Minister Hristo Hristov.

Clearing the waterway has been a major obstacle in peace talks between Iraq and Iran since U.N.-sponsored ceasefire ended Gulf war fighting last August.

Iraq demands that priority should be given to dredging the war-debris blocked channel which links its port of Basra to the Gulf. Iran wants other issues tackled first.

IRNA gave no details of the dredging operation nor when it was scheduled to begin.

The agency said Tehran and Sofia also agreed to cooperate in

railways and ports with Iran saying it was ready to export cars, minibuses, agricultural produce and construction materials to Bulgaria.

Iranian officials also held talks with visiting Hungarian officials.

The agency said, adding that Iran hoped proposed visits to Sofia and Budapest by Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani would boost relations with both countries.

The visits of the two delegations to Iran underlined Iran's growing tilt toward the Soviet bloc.

IRNA said Hristov and a high-powered delegation later attended meetings of the Iranian joint economic commission to promote long-term cooperation to the year 2,000.

They signed an accord for air and sea links between the two countries and urged surface transport links through the Soviet Union, Iran's northern neighbour.

Hristov's visit and Rafsanjani's planned trip comes amid a re-

surgence of anti-Western feeling in Iran, which has pushed Tehran closer to the Soviet Union and the East Bloc.

Rafsanjani is the only declared candidate so far in presidential elections scheduled for mid-August.

In rejecting the West, Tehran has turned to the Eastern industrialised nations to procure technology needed for its post-war reconstruction programme, launched after the Aug. 20 cease-fire in the war.

The programme will cost an estimated \$500 billion.

In recent months Tehran has signed important economic and trade pact with the Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, China and North Korea.

U.S. officials and other Western intelligence sources believe the Iranians are also seeking major weapons supplies from the East Bloc in their drive to rebuild and rearm the military following the Gulf war ceasefire.

## Turkey to take Bulgarian case to human rights forum

**ISTANBUL (R)** — Turkey, criticised over its own human rights record, is demanding European condemnation of what it says is a campaign by Bulgaria to assimilate more than a million ethnic Turks.

Nearly 300 ethnic Turks arrived in Istanbul with their families last Friday after being expelled by Bulgaria for allegedly resisting the assimilation campaign.

They told reporters that since May 6 up to 30 ethnic Turks had been killed and 200 injured in protest marches which were broken-up by Bulgarian forces.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz said at the weekend Ankara will try to make Bulgaria a major issue next week at a human rights forum at the East-West conference on Euro-

pean security and cooperation in Paris and at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit in Brussels.

Turks complain that the plight of ethnic Turks is not given the same attention as European rights campaigns for ethnic Germans, Hungarians or Jews living in Eastern Europe.

The London-based human rights group Amnesty International said Bulgaria in December, 1984, began its assimilation of ethnic Turks by ordering them not to speak Turkish or wear traditional dress and to change their names.

"Bulgarian practices are in total contradiction to perestroika and glasnost," Yilmaz told reporters Saturday. "I hope the European state will not again apply double standards."

"There hasn't been a peep from that champion of human rights, the European Parliament," wrote Mehmet Ali Birand, commentator in the liberal daily Milliyet.

The European parliament has often judged Turkey to have a poor human rights record. Some deputies have criticised Bulgaria's assimilation of its own minority of eight million Kurds.

To fight the Turkish case, Yilmaz said his delegation to Paris would include seven of the ethnic Turks recently expelled from Bulgaria.

Sofia says its assimilation campaign is aimed at restoring Bulgarian names which were forcibly Islamised under Ottoman Turkish rule before Bulgaria was founded in 1878.

Amnesty estimates the ethnic

Turkish population at 10 per cent of Bulgaria's nine million people. Ethnic Turks and Turkish officials give a figure of between 1.5 and two million.

The human rights watchdog said 100 people were killed in the first months of the 1984-85 campaign, which attracted widespread international criticism at the time.

Ankara has contacted Sofia to protest the Bulgarian reaction to the protests and Yilmaz said a February 1988 protocol to improve relations was "not working."

Ethnic Turks expelled by Bulgaria are assured of a good reception in Turkey, where almost all have relatives among several million descendants of those who came over in waves from Bulgaria as the Ottoman empire receded until its fall in 1923.



FINGER OF OPPRESSION: An Israeli soldier points to a Palestinian prisoner arrested in

a dawn raid by Israeli forces on Arab homes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Somalia floods cut off villages

**MOGADISHU (R)** — Floods in southern Somalia have inundated or cut off scores of villages and devastated farmland, the Agriculture Ministry said. The floods have submerged areas where thousands of Ethiopian refugees are settled and many were being moved to higher ground, ministry statement said Saturday. Agriculture Minister Bileh Rafe Guleid, who visited the area Friday, said urgent measures were being taken to control the flooding.

### 23 drug smugglers hanged in Tehran

**NICOSIA (AP)** — Twenty-three drug traffickers were hanged Sunday in Tehran, among them four women and two Turkish nationals, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The men were hanged in public and the women at the prison where they were jailed, the agency said. The hangings raised the number of drug-related executions in Iran to 151 in the past two weeks. IRNA quoted an Islamic Revolutionary Court statement as saying the drug traffickers were longtime smugglers who also were involved in running brothels.

### Oman, S. Yemen to start flights

**ABU DHABI (R)** — Oman and South Yemen are starting twice-weekly flights between their capitals. A United Arab Emirates newspaper said Sunday. Al Bayan, quoting unidentified Oman officials, said an accord was signed this week during a visit to Oman by South Yemen Air traffic chief Abdou Al Subhi. It did not say when they would begin. Relations between the countries have improved since a visit to Muscat by South Yemen's President Haidar Abu Baker Al Attas last October, following years of sporadic fighting over a border dispute.

### Banker says Papandreou was his boss

**ATHENS (AP)** — Fugitive Greek banker George Koskotas said in a letter published here Saturday that Premier Andreas Papandreou was his "boss" when he embezzled more than \$200 million from the Bank of Crete. Koskotas, in a handwritten letter published in two Athens afternoon dailies, alleged that Papandreou approved the looting of the bank while Koskotas was its chairman. The letter was also published in the New York city-based Greek-American daily the National Herald. "My big boss, the Greek-American with the very high position is one and alone, Mr. Andreas Papandreou," Koskotas said in the letter, published in Ethnos and Proti, two left-wing dailies. Koskotas referred to a Greek-American "boss" comes after Papandreou said in an interview published here last week that there were highly placed people in the United States backing the fugitive.

### Oman may buy French Mirages

**ABU DHABI (R)** — Oman is considering buying French Mirage 2000 fighter jets following its decision last month to shelve a deal for advanced British-made Tornados, a United Arab Emirates newspaper said Saturday. Al Ittihad newspaper said Sultan Qaboos would discuss buying an unspecified number of Mirages during a four-day visit to France beginning Tuesday. Oman said last month it could not afford eight supersonic Tornados ordered under a \$360-million contract with British Aerospace (BAE) and was instead opting for much cheaper BAE Hawks. The Omani cited declining oil revenues for their decision to shelve the Tornado deal. According to official figures Oman's oil sales fell by half a billion dollars in 1988. A British diplomat in the Omani capital Muscat told Reuters earlier this month that Oman was postponing indefinitely the Tornado contract. "The word is suspend... they are not cancelling the deal," he said. "The decision was taken with the knowledge of the British government."

### Senator reviews U.S.-Egypt cooperation

**CAIRO (R)** — U.S. Senator Dennis DeConcini arrived in Cairo Saturday to review defence cooperation with Egypt. DeConcini, a Democrat from Arizona who chairs the Senate's Defence Appropriations Committee, held talks with Defence Minister Yousef Sabri Abu Taleb immediately on arrival. Defence Ministry officials declined comment on the substance of the talks. DeConcini's visit follows the May 15 annual meetings of the U.S.-Egyptian Military Cooperation Committee, which reviewed several projects including a plan for Egypt to co-produce the M-1A1 battle tank. Military sources told Reuters earlier this month that Egypt, which receives annual U.S. grants of \$1.5 billion, might drop the \$2 billion project due to lack of cash. But Gamal Ibrahim Al Sayed, the minister of state for military production, said that it would go ahead.

### 2 killed, 9 wounded in Turkish attack

**ANKARA (R)** — Extremists killed two people and wounded nine in an attack on a coffeehouse in the southern Turkish town of Nizip, close to the Syrian border, the state-run Turkish Radio said Sunday. Officials told the radio the attackers were members of an illegal organisation but did not name the group. The semi-official Anatolian news agency said witnesses of the Saturday night attack bearded the gunmen shout "we shoot in the name of PKK" — the Kurdish Workers Party. The PKK has been fighting since 1984 for autonomy for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds but attacks have been rare in Gaziantep. Thirty-three people, including eight soldiers, were killed this week in the southeast, where the rebel group is most active. About 1,450 people have died in clashes between the PKK and security forces.

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:10	Sana (LIA)
06:25	Cairo (MS)
06:30	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
06:45	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
06:50	Kuwait (KU)
06:55	Baghdad (IA)
07:00	Paris (F)
07:05	Baghdad (AF)
07:15	Paris (AF)
07:30	Frankfurt (RJ)
07:35	Brussels, New York (EJ)
12:45	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
13:15	Amman (RJ)
13:30	Caracas (RJ)
20:45	Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
20:45	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
21:10	Geneva (RJ)
21:15	Jeddah (RJ)
21:20	Lima (RJ)
21:30	Cairo (RJ)
21:30	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
21:30	Marrakech (RJ)
21:30	Algiers (RJ)
21:30	Oran (RJ)
21:30	Tunis (RJ)
21:30	Port Said (RJ)
21:30	Aswan (RJ)
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## Ministry proposes 5-day school week, what do you think?

By Najwa Najar  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Students, teachers, parents, officials and laymen are being encouraged by the Ministry of Education to give their opinions on a proposed two-day weekend for schools.

For the past two days, officials at the Ministry of Education have been debating the possibility of increasing the one-day weekend, presently intact in all public and most private schools throughout the Kingdom, to a two-day weekend by the 1989-90 scholastic year, according to an official of the Ministry of Education.

To help the ministry in making its decision, the official, who preferred to remain anonymous, said that the ministry was open to suggestions on the Friday/Saturday holiday proposal for schools.

The proposal was initially deemed necessary by the ministry because of the difficulties educators face with a one-day

weekend holiday.

"On Fridays everything is closed, so teachers are unable to attend to personal chores such as going to the bank," the official explained. In addition, when the Ministry of Education offers a one-day training course, "we usually have to take the teacher from his or her classroom. With an additional day, we can offer two-day training courses."

If it becomes apparent through the (hoped for) public debate that a two-day holiday has a definite advantage over a one-day holiday, then the Ministry of Education will work towards implementing the proposal, the official said.

He explained that five to six classes lost on the current six-day school would be distributed over the five-day school week, increasing school hours by 45 minutes, and in only rare cases by 1½ hours.

The number of school days and hours will not fall below the minimum allotted within the (Ministry of Education) law."

be said.

The official stressed that the cutback on schoolday, "does not mean that the educators' salary will be cut," since the sixth day classes will be made up.

However, an increase in school hours may create problems for schools with double shifts, admits the official. "The increase of hours may mean that some of the students will be returning home at 4:30-5:00, which during winter time will mean that they leave school when it is dark," he said.

Measures to overcome such an obstacle is presently being discussed by the ministry.

There is another aspect which also needs further debate. A two-day weekend means that working parents with a one-day weekend will not attend to their children on Saturdays.

The official hopes that if a two-day weekend for schools is implemented, people would like it and it "would be implemented on a national level."

## Farmers get higher price for cereals

AMMAN (J.T.) — Centres at a number of areas in Jordan will open next month to purchase cereals from local farmers, and according to a cabinet decision announced Saturday evening the locally produced crops will fetch a higher price this year compared with last year's rates.

The ministry expects to purchase up to 40,000 tonnes of wheat, 100,000 tonnes of barley and 3,000 tonnes of lentils from farmers in the current season.

At each centre there will be a ministry representative to supervise the purchase operations.

The Council of Ministers in its weekly session decided also that a tonne of wheat will be bought at JD 158, up from JD 144 last year; barley at JD 99, up from JD 90; and lentils JD 198 a

tonne, up from JD 180 in 1988.

The Ministry of Agriculture earlier this month announced that the centres will be set up at Jweideh, near Amman, Irbid and Ramtha in the north, Karak and Rabbah in the south and Deir El Dein in the Jordan Valley region.

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## Scholars converge on Lyon for Jordan's history conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The history of Jordan will be brought back to life Tuesday at the French town of Lyon when orientalists and historians will gather for six days to review and discuss the country's archaeological treasures and antiquities over the past ages.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra said that 68 major research papers and 36 working papers dealing with the excavation work in the Kingdom, ancient sites and artefacts and antiquities unearthed over the past years will be examined by the fourth international conference on the history and antiquities of Jordan, which will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

picturing mosaics, and artefacts found at Tal Abu Hamed ancient site dating back to the early Bronze Age and until the 20th century.

The Department of Antiquities' Director Gazali Bisbis said the historians will discuss issues pertaining to these treasures and earlier settlements in the Kingdom; and will review current excavation programmes at these ancient sites.

The first conference on the history and antiquities of Jordan was held at Oxford, England in March 1980, the second in Amman in 1983, while the third was held in West Germany the following year.

According to Petra, three exhibitions will be held on the sidelines of the conference de-

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## Nsour opens 8 new schools

## 6,000 students celebrate Independence Day today

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 6,000 students from the various Ministry of Education schools throughout the Kingdom Monday take part in a festival to be held at the Amman International Stadium to mark Jordan's Independence Day.

The festival includes various activities, embodying the meanings of independence and the interaction between the leader and the people to achieve the objectives of the Great Arab Revolt.

On Sunday, Education Minister Abdulla Al Nsour paid an inspection visit to Anjara where he opened Anjara secondary school and Prince Abdullah vocational school. The Ministry of Education is currently constructing eight new schools in Ajloun at a cost of JD 2.25 million.

Nsour also attended the cultural festivals held by Ajloun secondary girls school to mark its 40th anniversary, and opened an art exhibition held to mark Jordan's Independence Day.

The minister also opened the annual art exhibition held by Jerash vocational school and toured the various sections of the exhibition.

Addressing the educationalists in Jerash and Ajloun, Nsour

stressed the need for innovative ideas for the development of the educational process.

Nsour also called for enhancing the human values and the spirit of cooperation, love of the homeland, and self respect, saying that the educational march is long and

cumbersome requiring that educationalists make every effort to achieve the aims of the education process.

Nsour noted that the theme of the educational process during the next stage should be "to develop the educational behaviours and to enhance self-supervision concept."

## Manama dentists meeting opens

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in a meeting by the executive council of the Arab Dentists Union due to open in Manama, Bahrain Sunday to discuss professional questions and the outcome of studies conducted by an ad hoc committee on specializations in dentistry.

A report by the union's secretary general and means of providing support to the Palestinian intifada will be among the other

questions to be discussed along with Arabization of dentistry terms and holding seminars and conferences at the regional and international levels.

Jordan will be represented at the four-day meeting by Dr. Ishaq Al Khaiti, president of the Jordanian Dentists Association. The union's assistant secretary general Abdul Aziz Al Haj, also from Jordan, will attend, along with the other members of the council.

**Jordan Times Tel: 667171**



Egyptian Civil Defence Chief Omar Shawqi (second from right) accompanied by CDD Director General Lt.-Gen. Khaled Tarawneh Sunday hold talks at CDD headquarters in Amman (Petra photo)

## Shawqi briefed on CDD

AMMAN (Petra) — Civil Defence Director Lt.-Gen. Khalid Tarawneh discussed with his visiting Egyptian counterpart Omar Shawqi and the accompanying delegation scopes of bilateral cooperation and means of developing the exchange of technical expertise and training programmes, between the two services.

At a meeting held Sunday at the Civil Defence Department, Lt.-Gen. Tarawneh praised the existing cooperation between Jordan and Egypt in the field of exchange of expertise and information, and stressed that the CDD has benefited a lot from the Egyptian experience in the areas of structural organisation and training programmes.

Shawqi lauded the achievements made by the CDD and expressed satisfaction with the standards the civil defence personnel in Jordan have achieved in terms of use of modern equipment and computer systems.

## Arab children's congress convenes on June 26

AMMAN (J.T.) — The ninth children's congress will start in Jordan on June 26 with the participation of children groups from all Arab countries, according to an announcement here Sunday.

The announcement was made by a preparatory committee set up by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) which is organizing the annual event.

The week-long congress will entail visits by the Arab children to archaeological and tourist areas and places of interest in Jordan as well as children's clubs, according to the announcement.

It said that the children will spend some days with Jordanian families and will attend an Arab festival during which various types of folk activities from Jordan and other countries will be presented.

According to the committee, a full programme had been prepared for the entertainment of the young visitors who will have a close picture of Jordanian children's life and will acquaint themselves with Jordan's achievements and national endeavours.

Through their shared experiences and visits to historical sites and cultural events, the Arab children are encouraged to appreciate more the contemporary challenges and the ancient bonds of culture and understanding that are common to all Arab people, according to the committee.

Last year, children from 17 Arab countries took part in the congress which entailed a variety of recreational activities.

According to the announcement, the congress which first convened in 1980 with the encouragement and under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, has become an annual cultural event for the children of the Arab World. So far according to the statement, total of 465 Arab children took part in the past eight congresses.

## Jordan, Egypt conclude sports, youth agreement

CAIRO (Petra) — Youth Minister Awad Khleifat and president of the Egyptian Higher Council for Youth and Sports Abdul Ahad Jamal Al Deen Sunday signed the executive programme of the Jordanian-Egyptian sports and youth cooperation agreement.

In a statement to Petra, Khleifat said that the signing of the executive programme coincides with the extraordinary Arab summit, held in Casablanca last week, which called for the return of Egypt to the Arab fold.

Under the programme, ten Jordanian youths will be called to participate in the Arab international voluntary work camp, due to be held in Cairo in August, and scout leaders from both countries will exchange visits.

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## Message to Brussels summit

THE LEADERS of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) gather for their much-heralded 40th anniversary summit in Brussels today, with media speculations focused on whether or not U.S. President George Bush would upstage Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in arms reduction initiatives. Well, fine and well as far as the developing world is concerned if such a competition leads to easing of tension around the globe. But, if past experiences are any indication, it remains to be seen how far will the expected arms reduction proposals go in deeds and whether the summit will draw a distinct line between media propaganda exercises and actual moves towards global disarmament.

There is little doubt that the prevailing East-West detente is conducive enough to creative action on both sides on the divide to construct new bridges of understanding and consolidate existing ones in the ongoing efforts to eliminate the ever-present threat of a nuclear war. But, the differences of viewpoints among NATO members over short-range nuclear forces (SNF) is very much on the podium in Brussels, threatening to boost splits rather than agreements to surface. In addition, possibilities that Bush might announce what the West perceives as a drastic cut in American military presence in Europe are also worrisome to some NATO members. Seen from this part of the world, these differences and rifts should fade into relative insignificance when considered in light of a mutually shared East-West understanding that both want to make the globe a better place to live, away from any threat of war or sabre-rattling.

While it is understandable that decades-old suspicions and mistrust cannot be swept off overnight, it is also desirable that the West in particular look at the East bloc led by Mikhail Gorbachev under a new light; and also give him credit for good faith in making concrete moves as well as new proposals to reduce global tension within the context of the arms race and regional conflicts. Furthermore, realities on the ground, as represented in developments within the Soviet Union and other East bloc countries dictate that the "Russian bear" is no longer lurking round the corner to pounce at the first given opportunity.

We, in the developing world, have but one simple appeal to the Brussels summit of the mighty Western military alliance: Consider the plight of the poor of the world whose aspirations for better living are blunted by East-West strategic interests and the never-ending race to acquire and site new weapons of destruction. Don't they have a right to reject being turned pawns in the game and asked to pay the price in terms of peace and stability? Are they not the ones who inevitably end up allocating a major part of their scarce resources to defend themselves against neighbours armed by either of the superpowers?

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Sunday discussed Israel's elections plan for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and Israeli leaders' moves to peddle the plan in Europe. Shamir and Arens went to the United States and Europe for the sake of convincing their leaders of the benefits of this plan which is clearly in Israel's favour and excludes all demands by the Palestinians that the elections be held after the withdrawal of Israeli forces and under U.N. supervision, said the paper. Al Ra'i said that though the United States expressed cautious approval of the plan, Washington was careful to warn Israel not to go ahead with its expansionist dreams in the Arab lands, something which Shamir has adamantly refused. Shamir failed to convince the public opinion and governments of the sincerity of their intentions with regard to the Palestine question, the paper added. It said that the Arabs at Casablanca made their voice loud and clear and demanded that the PLO's ideas for the elections should be implemented. But it said it is clear now that Shamir was not sincere in his moves and all he wanted was a means to abort the intifada and render the Palestinian endeavours a failure, an objective difficult to attain.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily focuses attention on an idea of closing schools in the Kingdom for two days a week instead of one and says that it is the brainchild of the Ministry of Education which is now holding wide contacts to determine whether it is feasible or not. Rakan Al Majali, who is also editor of the newspaper, says that the ministry is inclined to close down schools on Fridays and Saturdays, two days a week like many other countries around the world. There is no doubt that this idea has proponents and opponents and advantages and disadvantages something that should be weighed very carefully by the Ministry and by educationists who should remember that the two shift school can by no means implement this idea since there can be no way of extending school hours under the present arrangement, the writer notes. He says that the ministry should also take into consideration the fact that some mothers go to work on Saturdays and they will be confronted with the problem of arranging for their children to be looked after during their absence on that day. But the writer notes also that the application of the two-day holiday was found to be very feasible at the universities which continue to apply them, largely due to the high operational cost on the extra day of work.

Al Dustour daily Sunday said that Jordanian diplomacy was very active at the Casablanca summit which helped the Arab leaders to reach very positive results. The paper noted that King Hussein held numerous meetings with his Arab brothers for the sake of overcoming difficulties and problems that impeded an agreement, especially over the Palestine issue. The King's moves were in line with the Kingdom's endeavours to enable the Arabs arrive at a common ground and adopt a common stand vis-a-vis the common problems facing their countries, the paper said. The King's address to the summit manifested the Jordanian policy of seeking a strong Arab solidarity and a collective action.

## Arab summit puts PLO strategy on course

By Jonathan Wright  
Reuter

CASABLANCA — After a couple of setbacks to a peace offensive launched last year, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is back on course with fellow Arabs solidly behind him.

An Arab summit meeting in Morocco, summoned partly in response to steady lobbying by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman, has turned a PLO initiative into an Israeli government election plan.

The outcome, announced on Friday after four days of efforts to accommodate the views of Syria, was almost exactly what Arafat needed to show the world he is not the only Arab willing to make peace with Israel in exchange for land.

"The PLO has won 100 per

cent support from the Arab summit," PLO spokesman Ahmad Abdul Rahman said.

The organisation's success is a welcome change from the setback it suffered in the battle for membership of the World Health Organisation (WHO) earlier this month.

The WHO affair cast a shadow over the PLO's on-off dialogue with the United States, already in suspension while Washington awaited the PLO response to an Israeli government election plan.

Now, most importantly for Arafat, the Arab kings, sheiks and presidents have avoided sending Washington negative signals just as it starts to put flesh on a Middle East peace policy.

Delegates said he was helped substantially by Egypt, attending its first Arab summit for more than 10 years and already taking a

leadership role among Arabs.

U.S. President George Bush, in a message to summit host King Hassan earlier this week, described the Casablanca summit as an opportunity to enhance the prospects for Middle East peace.

He suggested the Arab leaders contribute to the process by endorsing the concessions Arafat has made over the last six months and avoid steps which would add to the obstacles.

U.S. diplomats said they were particularly concerned the summit might reject outright the idea of elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, where Palestinians have been in revolt against Israeli rule since December 1987.

They were also watching to see if the PLO, piqued at the U.S. campaign against its full membership of WHO, might ask Arab

states to exclude Israel from other international organisations.

The Casablanca summit did not take these steps.

Although it did not catch up with Arafat on each point, it showed the Arab consensus moving closer and closer to explicit recognition of a two-state solution — an independent state of Palestine alongside Israel in its pre-1967 borders.

The Palestine National Council (PNC) adopted such a solution at a meeting in Algiers last November and the Arab summit said it welcomed the PNC resolutions.

The Arab heads of state did not, however, recognise the state of Israel, as Arafat did in Geneva in December.

"We (the PLO) were destined to have the curse of recognising Israel, but why should we ask the Arabs to do likewise?" said one

of Arafat's advisers.

But there were many positive elements, such as a forthright condemnation of terrorism, a prime U.S. concern, and renewed endorsement of U.N. resolutions which implicitly recognise Israel's right to exist, be added.

Arafat did not, however, win a public pledge from his fellow Arab leaders to pay up contributions to an intifada fund.

The PLO says the previous Arab summit, in Algiers last June, promised an initial \$128 million, followed by \$43 million a month, to keep the uprising alive.

Only Saudi Arabia has paid its share in full, while most Arab countries have given nothing at all, PLO officials said.

Delegates said other Gulf states made clear their stretched economies meant they were in no position to make such precise commitments.

## Presidential post enhances Gorbachev's authority

By Susan Cornwell  
Reuter

MOSCOW — Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev's election to the Soviet Union's powerful new executive presidency Thursday enhances his authority in steering the country away from old-style Communism.

Gorbachev, who became Communist Party chief in March 1985 and added the old Soviet ceremonial presidency to his titles last October, has actually acquired few extra powers that he did not exercise already.

What he has gained instead is a solid legal and popular basis for them, answering criticism at home and abroad of the old Soviet tradition that the Communist Party chief acted as the country's top official.

Chosen as president by the Congress of People's Deputies, themselves elected in the first multi-candidate balloting in decades, Gorbachev now has an indirect popular mandate for his political, economic and foreign policy reforms.

In his new post, which carries five-year term, he will chair sessions of the Supreme Soviet — the standing parliament — to be elected by the congress — as well as decide key issues in foreign policy and defence.

The presidential post was proposed by Gorbachev and approved last year in political reforms which also created the congress and revamped Supreme Soviet as

part of an evolving "law-based" state.

The changes revolutionised the country's political structure but left the one-party system in place as something Gorbachev has so far been unwilling to change.

A peasant's son from southern Russia with a Moscow University degree in law, the stocky, balding Gorbachev has pushed ahead with reforms, despite resistance from the party and government bureaucracy.

In his four years in power, the Soviet leader has forced a major reshuffle in top political posts, replacing over half the government's ministers and many regional Communist Party bosses.

In April he oversaw a purge of 110 Communists, many elderly conservatives, from the policy-making central committee.

Gorbachev has also wooed world opinion by overhauling Soviet foreign policy, most recently with his trip to Peking for the first Sino-Soviet summit in 30 years.

In December 1987, he and then-president Ronald Reagan agreed in Washington to eliminate superpower medium-range nuclear forces. The treaty took effect in June 1988.

Gorbachev's fresh approach in foreign policy was conducted together with Eduard Shevardnadze, a fellow "new thinker" he named in July 1985 in place of veteran Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

In 1988 the Soviet Union

agreed to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan by February 1989, ending an incursion that brought the Kremlin international condemnation.

Together with cuts in Soviet troops along the Chinese border and a pledge by Vietnam, with Soviet backing, to withdraw from Cambodia, it also ended a major stumbling block to normalising relations with China.

Despite political reform, Gorbachev's home record has been more patchy, particularly in the economy in loosening the dead hand of decades of central planning.

The liberalisation of the political climate also allowed an eruption of long-standing grievances among many of the country's 100 or so various national groups which the Kremlin has appeared unable to control.

Over 40 Armenians and Azerbaijanis, died in ethnic clashes over the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh last year.

The killing by troops of 20 demonstrators at a peaceful rally in the Georgian capital of Tbilisi in April also appeared to deal a serious blow to the Kremlin leadership.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was born on March 2, 1931, in the northern Caucasus village of Privolnoye, near Stavropol.

Party chief in Stavropol at the age of 35, he was summoned to Moscow in 1978 to take charge of agriculture and in 1979 was made a non-voting member of the politburo.

He told a Soviet press interviewer recently that he earns 1,200 roubles (\$1,800) a month and likes nothing better than walking in the woods but rarely has time.

His wife Raisa, with whom he studied at Moscow University, has attracted attention in the West with an elegance and self-assurance rarely displayed by previous Soviet "first ladies."

In intensive care in May 11 after buying sweets when he ran into an army patrol, his 17-year-old brother Oleg was removed from near the surface of his right eye.

Mikhail was going home on May 11 after buying sweets when he ran into an army patrol, his 17-year-old brother Oleg was removed from near the surface of his right eye.

Mikhail was going home on May 11 after buying sweets when he ran into an army patrol, his 17-year-old brother Oleg was removed from near the surface of his right eye.

"There were stones being thrown, here and there, but he wasn't involved. The army opened fire."

Radwan said he was shot when he and others left their house on May 16 to buy food after a 10-day curfew. Thirteen people were living in the house and needed flour to make bread.

"As we left the Sheikh Radwan quarter, the army shouted at us to stop the car. There were seven soldiers. We stopped and they started battering the car. The driver got nervous and tried to move the car away. They opened fire and I was hit in the back," he said.

"He will never get better. He can't even pass urine," Dajani said.

Radwan's mother, a widow, squatted on the floor drinking coffee and eating a handful of raisins. "She shouldn't be bare, but I can't throw her out," the doctor said.

Many of the wounded are family breadwinners, a feeling of sudden uselessness adding to the pain of their injuries.

Mamoun contributed \$250 a month to his family in Kalandia camp from his work as a porter at the market, his brother said.

Nadir Suleiman Amar, 15, said he was shot in the chest in mid-May by Jewish settlers driving near the West Bank town of Hebron.

"Another two millimetres and he would have died, or another half hour and his heart would have failed," Dajani said.

"He was lucky, but even if they survive and go back to work, they are never the same again. Problems come and go for years."

He said most of the 700 seriously wounded people that the hospital has treated during the uprising were aged from 17 to 25.

Relatives crowd the corridors, others stand by beds, living evidence of the uprising's impact among the 1.7 million Arabs of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

More than 500 people have died in the intifada. The U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) estimates nearly 25,000 people have been injured in the 17-month-old uprising.

An Israeli army spokesman told Reuters that up to May 21 a total of 4,144 Palestinians had been wounded in the West Bank and 2,111 in the Gaza Strip. The army counts as wounded those treated and kept in hospital at least one night.

Army figures show that up to this week 1,128 soldiers were injured in the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the revolt began. Six soldiers have been killed.

Some 613 Israeli civilians have been wounded in the uprising, according to army figures.

Makassed Hospital is the best equipped hospital in the territories, and thus receives the most seriously wounded. Some will die, swelling the death toll of 500 Palestinians and 20 Israelis.

In intensive care, a 17-year-old Hebron youth lay motionless among the plastic lifelines. He was shot in the head with a plastic bullet in a clash involving Arab residents, Jewish settlers and the army.

"We tell the families in small doses," Dajani said. "He is going to die."

Two relatives kept vigil at the young man's bedside. Outside, the father asked: "What hope?"

## Bush's change of tone on Gorbachev seen as belated

By Christopher Hanson  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Arms control experts say the Bush administration now appears to be belatedly acknowledging that an historic opportunity is at hand to end the military face-off that has divided Europe for 40 years.

Last week the White House was still dismissing arms initiatives of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as public relations ploys and deriding Gorbachev himself as a "drugstore cowboy" — a colloquial term for a phony.

But on Wednesday, in a major change in tone, President George Bush warmly welcomed Gorbachev's proposals for slashing troop, tank and artillery numbers, saying: "Through negotiations, we can now transform the military landscape of Europe."

"...The Soviets are now being forthcoming and we hope to achieve the reductions that we seek," Bush declared in a commencement address at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

U.S. officials and private arms control analysts say Bush's sudden shift was evidently due to two things — a major arms control bargaining concession by Moscow and a belated realisation at the White House that negative U.S. comments on Gorbachev could be backfiring.

The Soviet concession



Current world judo champion Fabien Canu combines the rigors of training for international competition with a business career.

## Support for environmental groups surges

By Mitchell Landsberg  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — The Alaska oil spill, a wave of beach pollution last summer and reports of a global warming trend have pumped new life into the U.S. environmental movement, which is reaping a bitter windfall with each new catastrophe.

Officials of some of the nation's leading conservation groups say they have been inundated with donations and new members during the past year or so, especially after the March 24 spill of nearly 42 million liters from the oil tanker Exxon Valdez.

Although environmentalists insist they aren't gloating over Exxon's misfortune, they can't hide a sense of vindication.

"This spill has just really presented an opportunity," said Lee Keller Reis, a national wildlife federation spokeswoman. "You hate to say, 'We told you so,' but it's a way to make a point."

The federation, the nation's largest environmental group, has added 700,000 members during the past year, bringing membership to more than 5.8 million, Reis said.

Although the organization cannot say how many members were added in response to the Alaska spill, it does know that donors have contributed \$400,000 to a Alaska fund established after the disaster, she said.

Reis said part of the fund will be used to pay for research into the effects of the spill and for lobbying against oil drilling in the Arctic national wildlife refuge.

The federation is among several groups that took advantage of the spill to send out direct mail appeals for contributions. One such mailing sent out by the defenders of wildlife was the organization's most successful ever, according to Carol Waite, the group's development director.

Defenders of wildlife, which has 20,000 members, received \$200,000 in response to its plea, Waite said. One woman sent in unsolicited about \$1,000 in Exxon stock.

"I think that was just indicative of how many people are over this devastation," Waite said.

Another group, the 285,000-

member wilderness society, hasn't sent out an appeal for contributions related to the spill but has received about \$50,000 in unsolicited funds, said Rebecca Wodder, Vice-President for membership and development.

Other groups, such as the National Audubon Society, said it was too early to assess the impact of the oil spill on membership or contributions. However, Audubon spokesman Robert Sangeorge said the spill clearly would help.

### Paradox

"We're in the ironic situation where possibly the nation's greatest environmental catastrophe ever is causing this increased interest in environmental organizations," Sangeorge said. "It's a paradox."

He and other conservationists stressed that the upswing in sympathy for environmental causes began well before the spill. Most dated it to last year, when U.S. beaches were awash in pollution and a heat wave gave rise to concerns about global warming, which has been tied to air pollution.

Greenpeace estimates that it has been adding members at a rate of 50,000 a month since autumn and now has 1.35 million members. The wilderness society figures its growth rate has doubled during the past year to about 8,000 to 10,000 new members a month.

Contributions to the national Audubon society were up 50 percent over the past year, Sangeorge said. Although membership was up only slightly, to about 575,000, Sangeorge said that is because the organization has been in a "no-growth mode" and hasn't been soliciting new members.

Fred Krupp, executive director of the Environmental Defense Fund, said the oil spill "has been an important event in a series of important events that have heightened public interest."

But Krupp and some of his colleagues are wary of the apparent change in attitude.

"The fundamental lesson of environmental politics is that the public's interest in gains doesn't always translate into workable solutions," Krupp said.

"I think that was just indicative of how many people are over this devastation," Waite said.

Another group, the 285,000-

## Judo: A fast-moving sport

By Philippa Neave

**PARIS** — If Fabien Canu's experience is any indication, plenty of sportsmen and women should take heart and aim for the top, even if progress seems slow. Canu, judo's current world champion was no overnight success, in fact when he started training in France's national team some 10 years ago, he wasn't noted as a very talented fighter.

Long years of constant training paid off, however, and he gradually made a name for himself first in national and later in international competitions. Now, the 28-year-old judoist holds firmly on to his title, which he earned in 1987 in Essen, Germany.

His success comes at a time when judo is gaining in popularity worldwide, among adults as well as the very young. Like other martial arts, it is said to nurture moral stamina at the same time that it develops physical abilities and body coordination. This system of unarmed combat, now primarily a sport, aims at throwing the opponent cleanly and pinning him or mastering him by applying pressure to arm joints or to the neck. Judoists generally try to use the opponent's force to their own advantage instead of opposing it directly. A ritual of courtesy in practice is intended to promote calm, readiness and confidence.

Most countries have judo associations affiliated to the International Judo Federation headquartered in Paris. In 1989, some see the sport at a crossroads, with a choice between adapting to the public's taste so that competitions become more of a media event and attract more sponsors, or retaining all its traditions, whatever the cost in terms of public support.

Still, Canu is now the hero of hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren who practice judo in France, where the sport has become increasingly popular over the past 30 years. Every small town has a judo club, and an estimated 700,000 people practice regularly.

Canu, whose poise and deftness make him look considerably more nimble than his 86 kilogrammes would seem to allow, started out at age 9, like many of his schoolmates in the provincial town of Alencon, north of Paris. "I was a bit hyper as a child, so my parents thought that judo

would be just the sport to channel my excess energy," he recalled during a recent interview in Paris.

"I soon took a liking to judo," Canu said, "because it is a combat sport that has a very precise rules. Children love to fight and roll around on the floor, and they also like the fact that there are rules."

### Early commitment

Although he was committed to judo at an early age and soon distinguished himself in local competitions, Canu also played soccer, and at age 14 he was noted as a promising player. Looking at some soccer pals who, at the tender age of 16 were already being paid to play as semiprofessionals, Canu feared that he would also succumb to the lure of money: "The time came when I had to choose between soccer and judo. I had already reached a good level in judo and in a way I was a little scared of the professional and money-spinning side of soccer. The fact that some of my soccer friends had become completely dependent and financially supported at an early age put me off. I felt safer in judo because there isn't much money involved. It is a healthy sporting climate, a good school of life."

When the French Judo Federation picked him for the national team at age 18, Canu went to Paris, where he was housed and subsidised by the federation. "However," he pointed out, "I continued to study and earned the diplomas required to become a physical education teacher; I wanted to be able to earn a living."

But life changed a great deal after Canu won the world championship and was reconfirmed as European champion in May 1988. He became one of the first competition-level judo fighters to catch the attention of commercial sponsors. Weary of image problems caused by financial scandals in soccer and drug use in cycling — two major French sports — in recent years, organisers of sports events and sponsors have looked to other, perhaps less known sports such as judo and fencing which the public sees as "clean."

Encouraged by the media attention that Canu attracted, several companies approached him and he was able to choose the offers that best suited his ambitions and life style. He opted for judo and a teaching post in a secondary school in Paris. "I wanted to be able to earn a living," he said, "but I also wanted to be able to earn a living."

Canu's activities in the bank are related to sport, however. Canu is responsible for contact with other sports federations, such as golf, which Credit Lyonnais supports and sponsors. In the 18 months he has been with the bank, Canu has learned how to organise sponsoring, to draw up contracts and to deal with people at all levels. But, he stresses, "my first job is judo. If I am successful I will be talked about, and so will Credit Lyonnais. So sport comes first, but it is equally important for me to gain experience and training in the business world; it's a plus that could open opportunities for me in the future."

Some 350 Freoch athletes are currently employed by public sector and private companies, which give young men and women a chance to enter business once their sports careers are over.

Canu has also done business

with companies interested in his rugged good looks: The designer Paco Rabanne provides him with tailored suits and blazers; while Newman, a casual-wear clothing company that sponsors the judo federation, gives him some of its everyday line of clothes. The sporting goods manufacturer Adidas supplies his training shoes and other equipment. Canu said he may also sign one-time contracts with other manufacturers, such as Ford Motor Company.

Canu enjoys the perks, but be noted that they are modest compared with the contracts offered to tennis stars, for example. Although judo competition is becoming more of a media event, it has not yet captured widespread coverage, he added.

The nature of the sport may be part of the reason, he said: In competitions, both fighters are dressed in identical white kimonos; the contest lasts for five minutes, and the competitors score points according to the precision and mastery of the techniques used to pin the opponent's shoulders to the floor for at least 30 seconds; the rules are very

strict and are steeped in Japanese tradition, so much so that scores are announced in Japanese. All of which makes it difficult to keep the attention of the non-initiated.

According to Canu, a few minor changes could give a whole new media image to the sport. "For example, coloured kimonos (loose jacket and trousers traditionally made of white cotton) could be introduced so more people can understand who is who, and Japanese could also be dropped for a clearer method of scoring," he said, adding that he also favours "discreet" advertising logos on the fighters' kimonos to encourage commercial sponsorship.

Such ideas are heresy to the purists and they have caused fierce debate among judo authorities. The Japanese, in particular, insist on maintaining tradition. Says Canu: "All sports should

evolve, otherwise chances are they will die out."

Meanwhile, Canu continues to train for the next world championship to be held in October in Yugoslavia. Many of the challengers to his title, including several of his own countrymen, were present at a recent Paris tournament held in February and where Canu came second. Some observers thought his performance laboured and lacking in his usual panache. "One can't be in top form all year round," the champion commented philosophically. "I am concentrating on the end of the season world championship."

### 1992 Olympics

Canu also has his sights set on the 1992 Olympics to be held in Albertville, France, where he wants to make up for his disappointing performance in the 1988 Seoul games. He was ranked No. 1 for the games but was felled by the flu five days before. "I couldn't be treated properly because of the anti-drug tests, and the result was I went into the games with a terrible cold and a fever. I could barely stand up," he recalled. Canu came away with a fifth place ranking, leaving his countryman Marc Alexandre to pick up the gold.

With interest in judo spreading fast, the sport is now practised around the globe. Japan, where the sport originated, has traditionally provided top champions and instructors, but neighbouring Asian countries such as the two Koreas have recently fielded leading judo fighters. The sport's popularity has risen most dramatically in Latin America and the United States, both of which are relative newcomers. African and Arab countries are also beginning to produce top-flight judoists.

One advantage of practising judo is that it's fairly inexpensive, Canu said. The only equipment needed is a special floor mat and a kimono. The latter costs between \$50 and \$100. "Countries that are new to the sport simply send a small group of their best fighters to train in Japan, France or the USSR and they can reach international level without spending much," Canu added. As a result the competition is getting tougher every day and he admits that he is going to have to work "work very hard" to retain his title. (World News Link)

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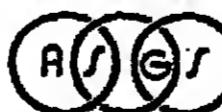
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# Analysts expect OPEC to raise oil production ceiling next month

**ABU DHABI (Agencies)** — Gulf oil producers, two of them desperate for foreign exchange, look set to push for an increase in OPEC's production ceiling when ministers next meet in June, according to oil industry analysts in the region.

But some producers may not be happy with the way the extra quotas are shared out.

The six OPEC Gulf producers — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Iran, Iraq and Qatar — account for two-thirds of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) current output ceiling of 18.5 million barrels per day (b/d).

"It seems there will be a one million or 1.5 million b/d increase in the OPEC output ceiling as Gulf producers look as if they agree on it," one industry analyst said.

The analysts said the six Gulf producers had differing reasons for seeking higher quotas when OPEC oil ministers meet in Vienna on June 5 to review the output ceiling.

Iraq and Iran, both rebuilding after their ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war, hardly need foreign exchange and one analyst said both would welcome any quota increase.

Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are each demanding an increase of at least half-a-million b/d in their individual quotas, arguing that their current quotas — 1.037 million and 988,000 b/d — are too small compared with their reserves.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest crude oil exporter, apparently believes that demand has picked up to the point where the output ceiling can be relaxed without depressing prices.

Some analysts said Kuwait and

the UAE might be frustrated if the rise in OPEC ceiling is shared in proportion to current allocations.

According to a Reuters survey, Kuwait produced 1.6 million b/d and the UAE 1.5 million b/d in April, but one analyst said:

"Even if Kuwait and the UAE are not satisfied and continue to produce higher than their limits, they will not wreck the prices as the market got used to some extra supply from the Gulf."

Saudi Arabia has also proposed that OPEC ministers should discuss scrapping its \$18 per barrel target price and replacing it with a \$15 floor price.

"Saudi Arabia wants to make sure oil prices remain at \$15 to \$20 margin in the medium-run," a Gulf oil analyst said.

"They think the (\$18) should not be an upper limit if the market forces push it higher and they want the (OPEC) secretary general to call a price committee meeting every time prices drop below \$15, one oil source said.

"We want a moderate gradual increase in price — sudden one, and we have to study the market to decide on the best production quota for the second half of the year," he said.

Lukman said that it should have a "moving target" which it can raise or lower to maintain the price levels it sought.

But he also noted that in case output had to be considerably reduced, it would only be the OPEC member states with high reserves and production capability that could accommodate such demand. He listed in this respect Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Iraq and Iran.

Iraq, which has had little choice but to respect its OPEC quota of 2,640 million b/d because of constraints on its ability

to ship out its oil, has said it will resume oil exports from the Gulf days before the June 5 meeting.

Iran, which has the same OPEC allocation as its Gulf war foe, is already producing to capacity at around 2.9 million b/d according to a Reuters survey; and industry sources said it would probably like to see its quota raised to around those levels.

**Lukman gives opinion**

OPEC's president was last week quoted as saying an increase in OPEC output is needed if member states wanted a \$18 per barrel price through 1989.

"If we wish to maintain the current level until the end of the year, then we must increase our production quotas," said KSA's Lukman in an interview published in the Saudi Arabian weekly magazine Al Yamamah.

"We don't want to reduce prices, but we don't want prices to increase. Not because we don't want the additional revenue — we all need every additional dollar to get our hands on," Sabah said.

"But we want something that can be continued well into the future, and this can only be done through stable prices that would encourage demand," he said.

Sabah said that, in his opinion, prices should remain "at the current level."

Asked if this could mean an increase in production quotas by OPEC, Sabah said: "I think we will be discussing that in Vienna, and it would be unwise to preempt our discussions there."

The Petroleum Intelligence Weekly, an industry newsletter, has reported that Kuwait was ready to flood the market if OPEC did not grant an increase to the country's current output level of 1.037 million barrels per day for the first half of 1989.

Producers outside the group could harm the OPEC price system if they did not cooperate on output levels, he said.

"We definitely need assurances from them that they will cooperate with us and work together with us, not doing anything that would harm the market," he added.

**Kuwait favours stability of prices at current levels**

Kuwait Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sahab said that Kuwait favours stabilising world oil prices at current levels to assure long-term demand.

Al Sahab told reporters Kuwait does not favour a price increase at this time.

"We don't want to reduce prices, but we don't want prices to increase. Not because we don't want the additional revenue — we all need every additional dollar to get our hands on," Sabah said.

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**Study shows higher military spending**

## BIGGEST JAPANESE BUDGET TAKES EFFECT

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan's 60.41 trillion-yen (\$431.5 billion) national budget took effect Sunday, with defence spending and development aid showing the largest gains.

Total government spending for the fiscal year which began April 1 increased 6.6 per cent, the largest rise since a 9.9 per cent jump in 1981.

Passage of the budget had been delayed by an opposition boycott in parliament linked to the Recruit bribery scandal.

Funding for official develop-

ment assistance rose 6.7 per cent to 755.7 billion yen (\$5.4 billion), while defence spending increased 5.9 per cent to 3.9 trillion yen (\$27.8 billion).

The foreign ministry has said an additional \$5 billion in development assistance will be provided by the fiscal loan and investment programme, bringing the total amount of aid to be provided in fiscal 1989 to more than \$10 billion. The amount is likely to make Japan the world's largest aid donor.

Japan announced last June that it would double its official development assistance to more than \$50 billion during the five-year period ending in 1992 in a bid to promote Japan's international contribution as an economic power.

Fiscal 1989 is the fourth year in Japan's five-year defence building plan, which involves a total of 18.4 trillion yen (\$131.4 billion). The plan calls for the 240,000-member self-defence forces to be able to repulse a "limited, small-scale" foreign attack.

"Japan's defence spending ranks sixth in the world if calcu-

lated excluding pensions and other expenditures, as the government does. If measured in absolute terms, as is done by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the spending would place third, next to the United States and the Soviet Union," said Professor Tomohisa Sakanaka of Aoyama Gakuin University.

In a recent defence report, the government said the five-year defence plan should be fully implemented despite a recent warning in East-West relations.

It said Japan would maintain its policy of not possessing nuclear weapons, not producing them, and not permitting their introduction into Japan.

In fiscal 1988, Japan's defence budget totalled 3.7 trillion yen (\$26.4 billion), or 1.013 per cent of Japan's gross national product (GNP) thus ending the nation's 11-year-old policy of limiting defence spending to less than one per cent of GNP.

Military spending is a sensitive issue in Japan. Its constitution, written by U.S. occupation forces following Japan's defeat in World War II, renounces war and the use of force to settle international disputes.

Under U.S. pressure to play a larger military role, the government scrapped the self-imposed one per cent ceiling in 1987, in a victory for advocates of higher defence spending.

Meanwhile, military spending in Western countries grew faster than their economies as a whole in the first half of the 1980s, according to a study based on

U.S. statistics. It was done by Michael Renner of West Germany for Worldwatch Institute, a Washington body financed by private foundations and United Nations.

The study says the information is based on a handbook of statistics issued by the CIA and a booklet of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency called "World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers."

A table shows that, after a drop in the 1970s, military spending between 1980 and 1985 grew by an average of 5.7 per cent a year in the Western industrial countries. Their gross national products, meanwhile, grew by an average of 2.2 per cent annually.

In the "centrally planned economies" — that is, countries under communist rule — the total growth was an average 1.7 per cent and military spending grew even more slowly, at an average of 1.3 per cent.

The same pattern is reported for Third World countries, in which China is included: Total average growth of 3.1 per cent, and average growth of military spending 2.1 per cent.

However, the study cautions that "estimates for centrally planned economies are likely to have a wide margin of error."

For the Third World, it quotes figures from the World Bank to show that 20 out of 36 countries increased the amount of production they devoted to military production between 1972 and 1986.

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The study says the information is based on a handbook of statistics issued by the CIA and a booklet of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency called "World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers."

A table shows that, after a drop in the 1970s, military spending between 19

## Five Poles die on Everest; toll rises

**Nepal** (AP) — Nepalese mountaineers were killed in an avalanche on Mount Everest Saturday, and one remained missing and stranded Sunday, the government said.

The tourism ministry said that four Poles — Andrzej Zygmunt Hamerlik, 31, of Karawoy, Miroslaw Dascal, 36, of Charzow, Warsaw; Gajdziewski, 35, of Gdansk and Wlodek Otreba, 41, from Gdynia — were killed yesterday when, as avalanche hit their camp shortly after midnight local time Saturday.

A fifth climber, Eugeniusz Chrobak, 32, of Krakow, died Sunday morning after being injured in the avalanche, which hit while they were asleep at the 7,000-metre (23,000-foot) camp there.

Tourism ministry officials said they believed only the Poles were at high altitudes on the mountain when the avalanche occurred.

### Montpellier sign stars

**MONTELLIER** (R) — French first division team Montpellier pulled off a remarkable transfer coup Sunday when they signed brilliant young strikers Eric Cantona and Stephane Paille for next season.

Cantona and Paille, who are great friends, starred together in the French under-21 side which won the European title last season.

Montpellier vice-president Roger Proutet said the two signed at a special ceremony at the club at midday Sunday. Paille joins on a three-year contract from Sochaux and Cantona will play for one year on loan from champions Marseille. Proutet would not reveal the fees involved.

Montpellier will have the option later to complete the full

transfer of Cantona, the enfant terrible of French soccer who was barred from the national team this season for insulting former national trainer Henri Michel.

He was suspended by Marseille for throwing his shirt at the referee in a charity game and was loaned out to Bordeaux.

Cantona, 23, who can also play in midfield, has played five times for France, scoring on his debut against West Germany.

Paille, who is the same age, has been a regular in the French side this season and has won eight caps. He is also the third-highest scorer in the French League this season with 16 goals.

Montpellier have already signed international striker Daniel Xuereb from Paris St. Germain for next season.

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARF  
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#### SNIP THE LINE

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

**NORTH**

♦ A 2

♦ K Q J 10 7 4

J

♦ 10 9 7 3

**WEST**

EAST

♦ K 10 8 3

♦ 9 6 5

♦ 7 2

♦ 6 4

♦ 4 Q 8

♦ A K 5

**SOUTH**

Q 5 7 5

♦ A 9 8 7

♦ K Q 8 3

♦ J 6 4 2

The bidding:

East South West North

Pass Pass 2 ♠

Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

It is only human to want to hold on to what we have. But once in a while we have to sacrifice a little to gain a lot. Here's an example of what we mean.

With so much of his strength con-

centrated in diamonds and only a singleton heart, South could not take any action over East's opening bid. But when North stretched a little to show a hand of at least opening bid strength with an excellent heart suit by his own jump to two hearts, South went right to the game he expected to make.

"We had his fourth-best dia-

mond," he said.

There was only one way to shut out the heart suit. Declarer would have to hold a singleton heart. And since that would almost surely be the singleton ace, dummy's entry would have to be removed before the hearts were fired.

East found the surest way to accomplish that. He shot up with the ace of diamonds and shifted to the king of spades! Declarer had no counter.

Ducking the first spade would not help, since East would simply continue with another spade; and winning the ace would maroon those wonderful hearts. East's play surrendered a trick in spades, but gained four in the other suits. In the end, his play is known as the "Merrimac Coup."

Yes we know a low club at trick two by East, followed by a spade shift from West, would have proved equally effective, but that would have been dependent on West holding the queen of clubs. East's actual defense was both prettier and more effective.

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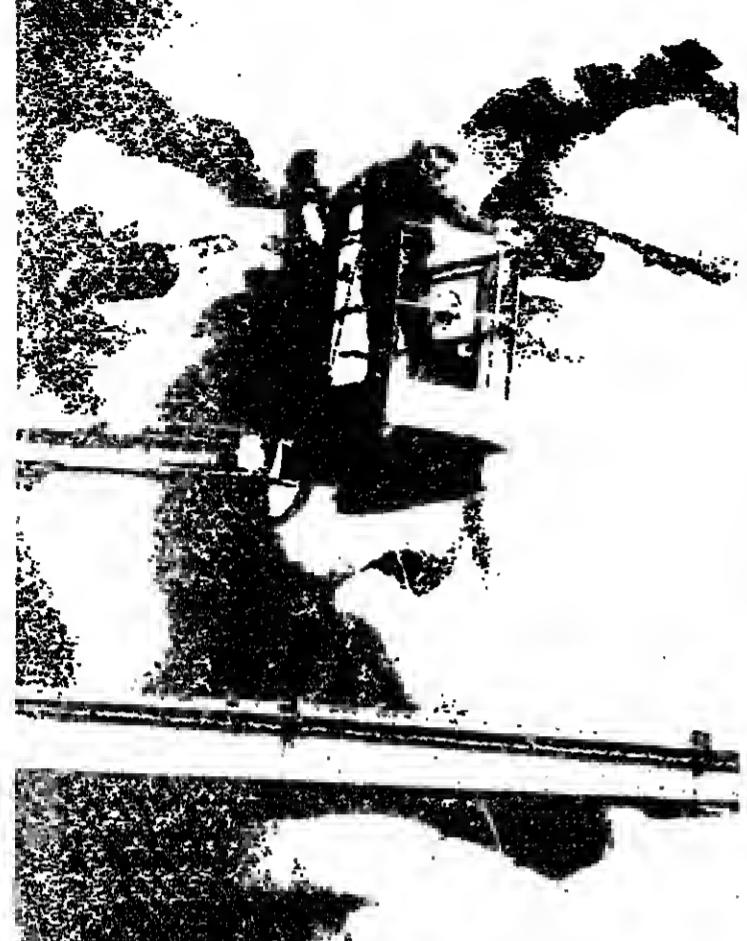
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## Soviet congress sparks row

MOSCOW (R) — In Moscow's Pushkin Square Sunday people angrily discussed the work of the Congress of People's Deputies — the first assembly elected in multi-candidate balloting in 70 years.

Many voiced exasperation and disappointment that the new Soviet congress had excluded

anti-establishment hero Boris Yeltsin and other radicals from a smaller working parliament.



Final touches to a seven-storey-high portrait of Lenin put up on Moscow's Red Square on the eve of the Soviet parliament session.

"This congress is totally discredited," Yuri Yuli, a member of an informal organisation called the Moscow Popular Front, told several dozen people who had stopped to listen.

"Can we trust the parliament that rejected the most popular deputies?" demanded a poster beside him.

Thousands of people chanting Yeltsin's name gathered late Saturday outside a Moscow sports stadium and another protest rally was planned for Sunday evening.

On Saturday, the third day of its existence, the congress elected a largely conservative Supreme Soviet, the 542-member standing parliament which is to meet for up to eight months a year and do most of the country's lawmaking.

Deputies rejected a number of prominent reformers including Yeltsin, the former Moscow Party chief whose recent landslide election to the congress seat representing the capital gave him the largest direct mandate of any Soviet politician.

The youth daily Moskovsky Komsomolets Sunday published the comments of several young people who were disappointed that the congress chose numerous party and government officials while ignoring experts such as economists and lawyers.

"My eyes are brimming with tears of powerlessness, because I cannot change anything. Our leading specialists did not get elected to the Supreme Soviet — what a shame," Viktor Kononov, a 15-year-old Muscovite, wrote.

The election of the Supreme Soviet capped a voting pattern that indicated the more conservative deputies enjoy a roughly

two-to-one majority in the 2,250-seat congress.

The pattern has led to accusations of partiality against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev who generally votes with the conservatives on show-of-hand tallies while giving free reign to radical speakers. Gorbachev is also Communist Party general secretary.

At the Saturday evening rally a Yeltsin spokesman told the crowd that Gorbachev's direction of the congress had turned it into a "tragic-comedy theatre."

A Minsk resident whose comments were carried by Sunday's Sotsialisticheskaya Gazeta warned against a division of the population into "Gorbachevites" and "Yeltsinites."

"This would badly affect perestroika," V. Loskutov told the newspaper. He suggested that Yeltsin should be nominated as first deputy to Gorbachev as Soviet president.

The first deputy election is expected Monday.

The government newspaper Izvestia said Sunday that there were differences of opinion in the congress but it was wrong to describe one bloc as conservative and another as radical.

"It is more relevant to speak about the maximalists and the moderates who stick to some traditions, who approve democracy but not without limits," Izvestia said.

One woman in Pushkin Square said she still hoped that the congress would eventually become more liberal, perhaps electing Yeltsin to the Supreme Soviet in a year or so.

"I am an optimist," she said.



Ready for action... U.S. marines practice a beach assault from a landing craft in Panama yesterday.

The exercise was part of a programme of training near the canal.

## Noriega wins another round against U.S.

PANAMA CITY (AP) — General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Panama's de facto ruler, has won another round against the United States, deftly avoiding condemnation by the Organization of American States (OAS).

The United States has tried unsuccessfully to oust Noriega, commander of the country's defence forces, since he was charged in the state of Florida with drug smuggling in February 1988.

But the general has weathered street protests, U.S. economic sanctions that have crippled his country's economy and even Latin American criticism of the Panamanian government's decision to nullify the May 7 presidential election.

At the United States' urging, the OAS approved a resolution blaming Noriega for the problems with the recent election and sent a mission to Panama last week to try to resolve the country's political unrest.

Instead of condemning Noriega and negotiating a peaceful trans-

fer of power, however, the OAS mission met with the general and his foes, talked about the need for consensus and Panamanian solutions, and then left, saying it had accomplished its objective.

"We have promoted communication between the different political sectors," said mission member Diego Cordovez of Ecuador. "We have fulfilled our mandate.

"There are complex problems and deep emotions" involved in the Panamanian situation, he added.

"The OAS did what it could to satisfy the United States publicly and at the same time maintained appearances by trying not to act like it was interfering in Panamanian internal affairs," said a Latin American diplomat who did not want to be identified by name.

Latin American countries consider the principle of non-intervention paramount in hemispheric relations.

The United States had managed to obtain the OAS resolution blaming Noriega for the political unrest and violence in Pan-

ma following the elections. Several Latin American presidents, such as Alan Garcia of Peru, also condemned the government for nulling the elections.

International observers said the opposition candidates won the election, but that pro-Noriega forces were using vote fraud to steal the results. During a rally after the election, the opposition's presidential candidate and his two vice presidential running mates were beaten by a pro-Noriega paramilitary group.

But when the OAS delegates arrived, Noriega met with them twice and blamed Panama's political crisis on the U.S. sanctions and other direct interference. He pointed out to his fellow Latin Americans that what the United States was doing to Panama "could be done to them later on."

One diplomatic source said Noriega "is strong — he has won this round." When asked by a journalist what he thought about Panama's future after the second OAS meeting, Noriega answered: "It looks good. Swords are hardened by fire."

## COLUMN 10

### Crowds a real pain for dolphins

BALTIMORE (AP) — Dolphins need solitude and can sometimes develop ulcers when the world gets too close, scientists say they have learned. A study by the former chief of medicine at Baltimore's National Aquarium says three dolphins developed ulcers shortly after arriving at the newly opened aquarium eight years ago because of the big crowds that came to see them. "We looked at everything we thought could be stressful to them, such as the configuration of the tank, temperature, being watched by the public, light levels and noise from the pumps," said Michael K. Stoskopf, professor of comparative medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. "The real problem with the exhibit was the people," said Stoskopf, chief of medicine at the aquarium from 1981 to 1988.

### Jagger seeks to block Warhol book

LONDON (R) — Bianca Jagger, former wife of Rolling Stone Mick Jagger, issued a writ for libel Friday against the publishers of pop artist Andy Warhol's controversial diaries. Lawyers for the glamorous, Nicaraguan-born Jagger said she was also seeking a court order to prevent the diaries being published in Britain by Simon and Schuster June 12. "The book contains a number of untrue and defamatory allegations against Ms. Jagger, and she will take whatever steps necessary to protect her reputation from unjustified attacks," lawyer Kevin Bays said.

### Bush surprises wet sailor

ABOARD USS GUADALCANAL (R) — U.S. President George Bush and his wife made a surprise flying visit to an American sailor Sunday, catching the crew unaware and bumping into a red-faced sailor wearing only a towel. Bush decided to make the 15-minute trip to the helicopter carrier Guadalcanal after attending a memorial day ceremony at a U.S. military cemetery in Nettuno, 50 kilometres south of Rome. Even the ship's commander, Captain Jim Dregger, who also attended the cemetery ceremony, was not aware in advance of Bush's visit and arrived behind him on the carrier, which was anchored a mile off Nettuno. As security helicopters circled the ship, Bush and his wife Barbara toured the decks and encountered one young man clad only in a towel who had just come out of the shower. Bush shook hands with cheering sailors and told Captain John McKay, commander of the amphibious task force led by the Guadalcanal: "We only have about 10 minutes. We wanted to drop in and show the flag."

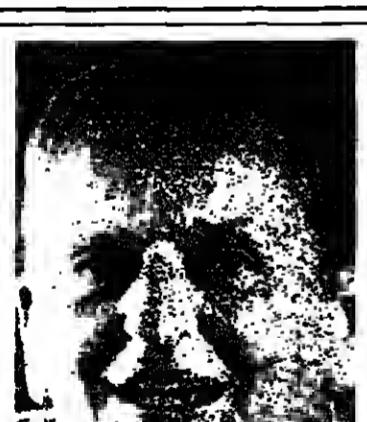
### Dukakis' Oscar stolen

UPPER MONTCLAIR, New Jersey (R) — The Oscar won by actress Olympia Dukakis for her performance in "Moonstruck" was stolen from her home here, police said Friday. The small Academy Award statue "was stolen Thursday from the actress's New Jersey home in the New York City suburb, although nothing else was taken. Her husband, actor Louis Zorich, said the nameplate on the statue was left behind. "We're not pretentious, we kept the Oscar in the kitchen," he said, adding, "It's very bizarre. I wonder if a film freak took it." Dukakis, who is currently filming in Hollywood, won the Oscar for best supporting actress for her role as Cher's mother in the 1987 film "Moonstruck." She is a cousin of former Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis.

### Global weather (major world cities)

	MAX	MIN
AMSTERDAM	65° 43°	20° 68°
ATHENS	78° 55°	25° 77°
BANGKOK	80° 55°	25° 33°
BELGRADE	69° 45°	18° 55°
CAIRO	21° 70°	29° 102°
CHICAGO	75° 55°	18° 38°
COPENHAGEN	72° 54°	25° 88°
FRANKFURT	73° 55°	25° 88°
GENEVA	10° 59°	22° 77°
HONG KONG	24° 55°	18° 81°
ISTANBUL	11° 52°	18° 75°
LONDON	68° 46°	18° 81°
LOS ANGELES	75° 60°	23° 74°
MADRID	13° 55°	24° 70°
MECCA	26° 79°	42° 110°
MONTEVIDEO	06° 48°	16° 91°
MOSCOW	11° 52°	24° 75°
NEW DELHI	23° 74°	41° 105°
NEW YORK	14° 58°	24° 75°
PARIS	17° 58°	22° 77°
ROME	12° 54°	25° 90°
TOKYO	16° 54°	25° 97°
VIENNA	12° 54°	25° 77°

## Swede faces Palme murder charge



Olof Palme

doubts that police would be able to build a strong enough case to bring him to trial.

Police still acknowledge having only circumstantial evidence against Peterson, and the authorities thought long and hard before going ahead with a prosecution.

"Barring unforeseen circumstances charges will be laid on Monday," a court spokesman said.

The trial is due to begin one week later on June 5 — more than three years since Palme was shot dead at point blank range as he walked home from a cinema with his wife.

Peterson has consistently denied he is the assassin.

A spokesman for the Stockholm district court where Petersen is to stand trial said the panel which would be judging the case would also be present Monday.

The panel will consist of two judges and six lay people who represent Sweden's various political parties. They pass verdict and also if necessary decide the sentence.

State prosecutor Anders Helin said last month he had decided in principle to charge Petersen.

But until then there were

## Is Brussels big enough for Papandreu's women?

ATHENS (R) — Will Brussels be big enough for both the wife and mistress of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu at Monday's North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) summit?

Papandreu and Dimitra Liani, a twice-divorced 34-year-old air hostess, arrived Saturday in the Belgian capital.

During the summit Liani is expected to reinforce her new role as Greece's unofficial first lady. Her first official visit to Western Europe as 70-year-old Papandreu's consort has been well-prepared with rehearsals on the diplomatic scene.

But Papandreu's 65-year-old estranged wife Margaret will also be in Brussels with an international group called "Women for a Meaningful Summit."

After months of bitter public wrangling, Papandreu's lawyers

said last week Margaret had finally agreed to a divorce. If confirmed it would clear the way for a quick legal separation and perhaps another marriage for the prime minister before national elections in June.

At a 12-nation European Community (EC) summit on the Greek island of Rhodes last December Liani was paraded unexpectedly through the main news centre, causing a stampede by the world press.

She was kept away from the other EC leaders but that is not expected to be the case at the Brussels summit.

Since her December debut Liani has traded jokes and clinked champagne glasses with Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov and helped entertain visiting Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

Police say they have witnesses, including Palme's widow Lisbet, who can identify Petersen as the man seen loitering outside the central Stockholm cinema where Palme was. But no-one saw him with a gun and the murder weapon has not been found.

Before Petersen's arrest there was strong speculation that Palme's murder was a political crime, given his role as a mediator in the Iran-Iraq war and as a peace campaigner.

Police have not yet revealed an alleged murder motive for Petersen, and doubts have been voiced as to how well witnesses will stand up to cross-examination in court over three years after the event.

The trial is expected to last between four and six weeks.

Advocates

Will receive their clients and visitors in their office located in Paris A. Khoury Street ... Shmeissani near Bahrain Embassy from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. everyday except Thursday afternoon and official holidays.

Tel: Off. 668

## Batman, army sequels fight for filmgoers' dollars

By Matthew Heller  
Reuter

senior vice president of Entertainment Data, said the sequels alone this summer should represent between \$600 million and \$800 million.

"It has the potential to be at least a near-record summer," he said.

First out of the starting gate this year is "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," the third in the series that began with "Raiders of the Lost Ark." In "Last Crusade," the fearless archaeologist played by Harrison Ford teams up with his father, played by Sean Connery, against the Nazis.

By opening this week, the film's distributor, Paramount Pictures, is hoping to get a head start on the big guns to follow in June — "Batman" and "Ghostbusters II."

The makers of "Batman" are obviously counting on matching the success of other comic book characters, such as Superman, who have been

transplanted to the big screen.

The film boasts spectacular special effects, Michael Keaton as Batman and Jack Palance in the role of his mortal enemy, The Joker.

Moreover, the promotional blitz for "Batman" is perhaps the biggest of all among the summer releases. Batman shirts, video games, walkie-talkies and boxer shorts are on their way to shops. Children will be able to ride in a replica of Batman's vehicle, the Batmobile.

The "Ghostbusters" sequel features the same cast as for the first film, including Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Sigourney Weaver. The original was the most successful comedy of all time, grossing over \$200 million.

Even half that amount could assure the future of its distributor, Columbia Pictures. The famous studio has struggled through senior management upheavals, a series of box-office flops and rumours that its parent company, Coca-Cola, is looking for a buyer. "They certainly need a highly visible film to re-establish some credibility at the studio," said analyst Jeffrey Logsdon of Cowell Weedon and Company. "They've got an excellent vehicle to do that in 'Ghostbusters.'"

Long list

The list of other sequels is so long that Roman numerals will be as prominent at movie theatres this summer as popcorn.

They include "Star Trek V:

"The Final Frontier," "Lethal Weapon II," "The Karate Kid Part III," "A Nightmare on Elm Street V: The Dream Child" and even "Friday the 13th, Part VIII." There is also the immortal James Bond, who is returning for his 16th adventure, "Licence to Kill."